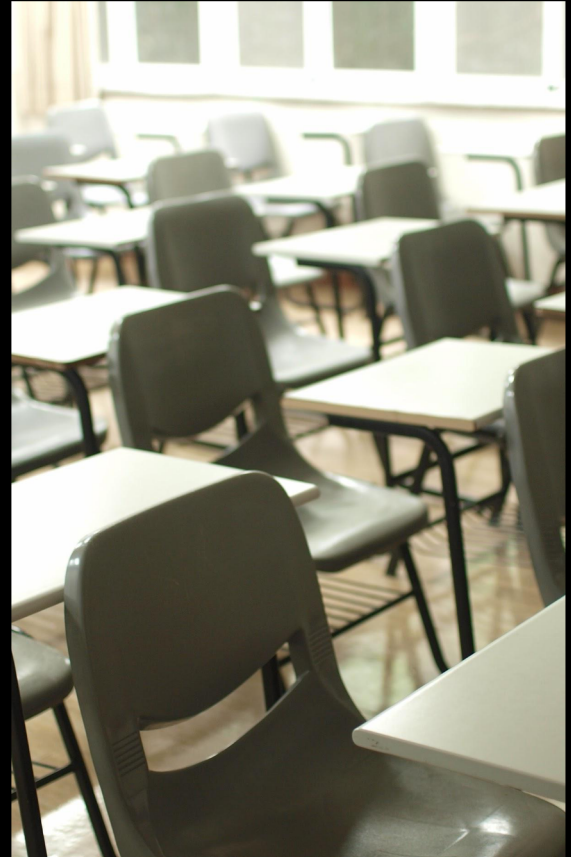


Equity in School Discipline Dashboard

Leah Catotti | April 30, 2021



AGENDA

1

**PROJECT
OVERVIEW**

3

**DASHBOARD
CONTENT & USE**

2

**DASHBOARD
PROPOSAL**

4

**ADDITIONAL
RECOMMENDATIONS**

“NCDPI, in collaboration with NCDPS and local law enforcement agencies, **should collect data regarding exclusionary discipline in schools and school-based referrals to the juvenile courts.** The data should be published online at least annually and be searchable by school, by district, by student race, sex/gender, disability status, economic status, and grade, and by SRO and juvenile court involvement, all to the extent compatible with applicable confidentiality requirements.

This Task Force or its successor should examine this data and engage in listening sessions and further research regarding the impact and use of SROs in schools, to make a recommendation regarding the continued use of SROs in elementary, middle, and high Schools.”

Operationalizing TREC Recommendation #23

TREC SRO-RELATED RECOMMENDATIONS



21

Develop inclusive processes for selecting and overseeing SROs.



22

Train all public school employees & SROs on the proper role of SROs.



23

Collect data on discipline in schools.



24

Encourage School Justice Partnerships.



25

Support implementation of the state action plan for school safety.



67

Require a school administrator or social worker to sign a petition initiated by an SRO.

PROJECT METHODOLOGY

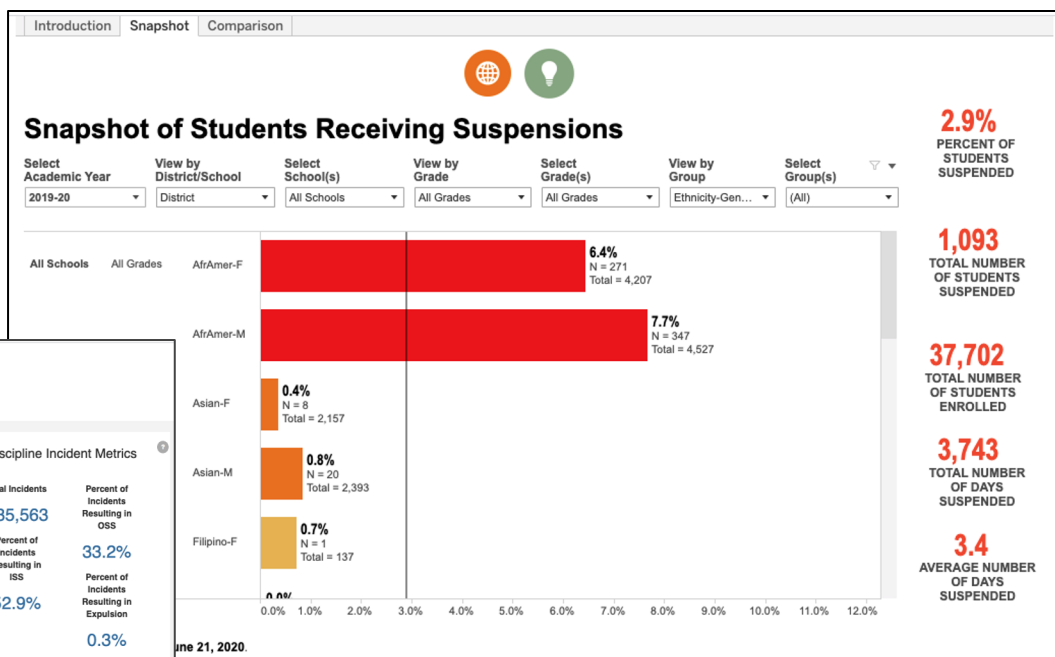
- Conversations with students, teachers, school administrators, advocates, researchers, state and local officials, and SROs
- Reviewed academic literature on the impacts of SROs on school safety and climate from NC and other states
- Explored publicly-available data on SROs and school discipline in NC

DATA & DASHBOARD RECS

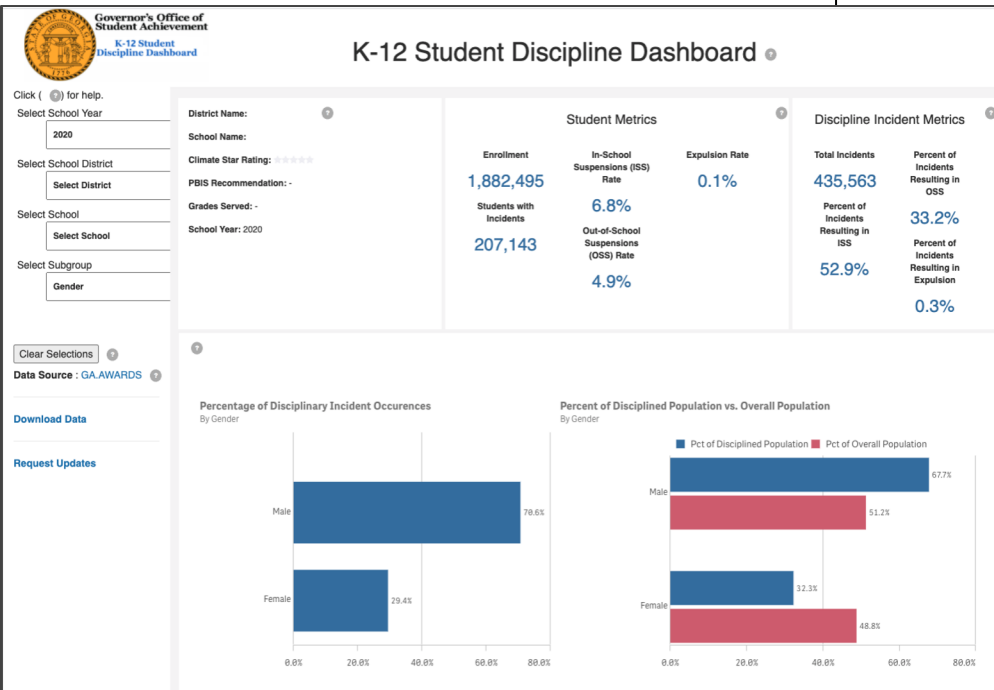
- Equity in School Discipline Dashboard
- Dashboard Content
- Implement & Incorporate School Climate Survey
- Make the Dashboard Accessible & User-Friendly
- Dashboard Host & Roles
- Accountability & Action Mechanisms

DASHBOARD OVERVIEW & GOALS

- Clear, accessible, interactive dashboard updated annually to display school discipline and safety metrics
- Incorporate existing public statewide data on school discipline from DPI, DPS, the NC Judicial Branch, & CRDC
- Intended to be used by diverse audiences
- Serve as a tool for local and state decision makers & bring attention to disparities in school discipline



Similar dashboards are used in other states and localities



PROPOSED DASHBOARD CONTENT

School to Prison Pipeline:

- Referrals to Law Enforcement
- School-Based Arrests
- School-Based Juvenile Delinquency Complaints
- School-Based Delinquency Complaints By Offense

School Resource Officers:

- School-Based Offenses Reported by SRO
- Information on NC SROs

School Discipline:

- Short-Term, Long-Term, & In-School Suspensions
- Expulsions
- Alternative Learning Placements

School Safety & Climate:

- Acts of Bullying & Harassment
- Reportable Acts of School Crime & Violence
- YRBS Student Perceptions

CURRENTLY COLLECTED & PUBLICLY AVAILABLE

ADDITIONAL DASHBOARD CONTENT

- Discipline data disaggregated at the school level
- Discipline data (suspensions, expulsions) disaggregated by length and offense type
- Rates of in-school suspensions at the school and district level
- Discipline data by measure of student achievement level
- Discipline data by SRO involvement
- Race of SRO
- School-based arrests, referrals to law enforcement, and use of force at the school and district level disaggregated by race/ethnicity, gender, age, and offense
- Data on broader measures of discipline consequences, by gender and race/ethnicity
- School climate survey responses

NOT YET AVAILABLE

IMPLEMENT & INCORPORATE CLIMATE SURVEY

School Climate Measurement



School climate measurement involves a comprehensive assessment of student engagement, school safety, and the learning environment.

The measurement of school climate provides educators with the necessary data to identify school needs, set goals, and track progress toward improvement.

Grades 6-12

Question	Response						
How often do your teachers seem excited to be teaching your classes?	Almost never	Once in a while	Sometimes	Frequently			
How fair or unfair are the rules for the students at this school?	Very unfair	Somewhat unfair	Slightly unfair	Neither fair nor unfair			
How pleasant or unpleasant is the physical space at your school?	Very unpleasant	Somewhat unpleasant	Slightly unpleasant	Neither pleasant nor unpleasant	Slightly pleasant	Somewhat pleasant	Very pleasant
How positive or negative is the energy of the school?	Very negative	Somewhat negative	Slightly negative	Neither negative nor positive	Slightly positive	Somewhat positive	Very positive
At your school, how much does the behavior of other students hurt or help your learning?	Hurts my learning a tremendous amount	Hurts my learning some	Hurts my learning a little bit	Neither helps nor hurts my learning	Helps my learning a little bit	Helps my learning some	Helps my learning a tremendous amount

School climate measurement is the first step toward school improvement.



School climate measurement is a tool for keeping schools accountable.



School climate measurement is an evidence-based identification of school needs.

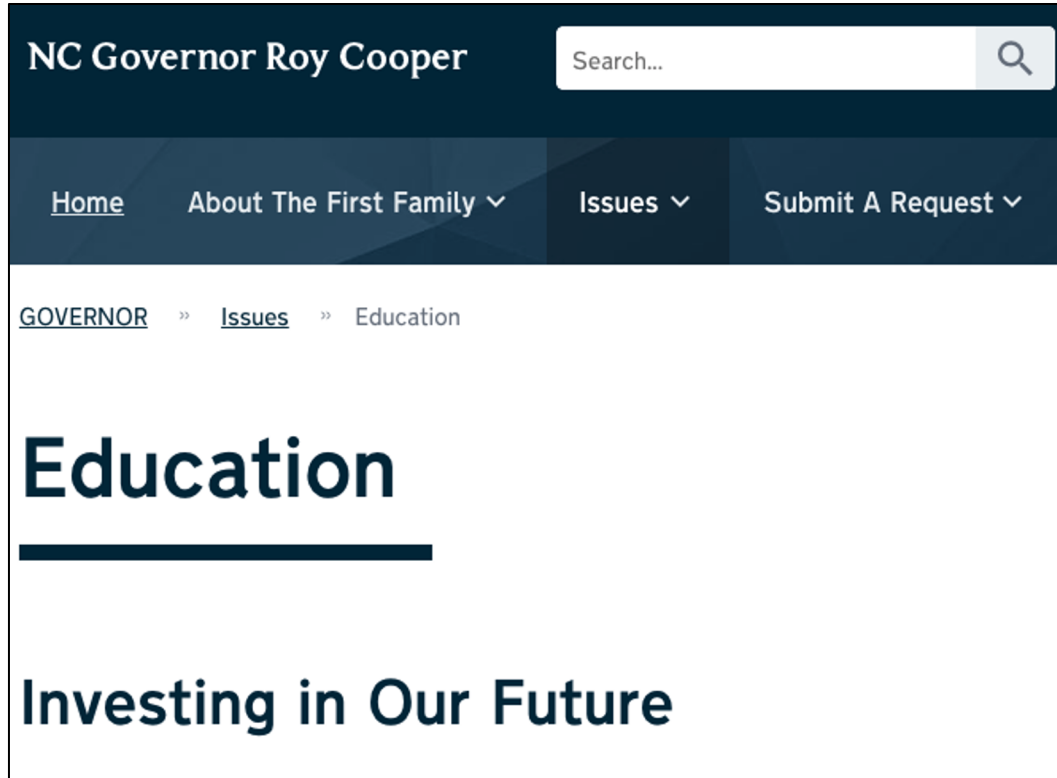


MAKING THE DASHBOARD ACCESSIBLE & USER-FRIENDLY

- Interactive & dynamic
- Prioritize simplicity & visual cleanliness
- View data at school, district, & state level
- Compare across districts & over time
- Disaggregate data as much as possible & consider intersectionality
- Include metric definitions & data sources
- Optimize for mobile devices & make available in Spanish+
- Make datasets available to researchers
- Provide users with resources to learn more



DASHBOARD HOST & ROLES



- Proposed Agency Host: DPI
- Proposed Governor's Office Role
- Proposed TREC Role

TREC ACCOUNTABILITY & ACTION MECHANISMS

- Annually review the Dashboard, analyze trends, and convene stakeholders to continue to bring attention and discussion to issues of equity in school discipline
- Encourage DPI to share the dashboard with local education agencies and identify outlying districts for targeted interventions or learning opportunities
- Recommend that school districts host annual community meetings or town halls to discuss trends in discipline disparities and collectively brainstorm solutions
- Encourage use of the Dashboard as a tool to support the Task Force for Safer Schools' State Action Plan and School Justice Partnerships

ADDITIONAL PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS

SUPPORT REMOVING SROS FROM SCHOOLS

Publicly state support for local efforts to remove SROs from all NC schools

REMOVE SROS FROM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Recommend and advocate for the removal of SROs from all NC elementary schools

SUPPORT PILOT TO REMOVE SROS

To collect data on the impact of SROs on school safety & discipline disparities

AMEND STATE SRO FUNDING

Create an 'OR' option to allow SRO funding to support mental health professionals

Thoughts? Feedback? Questions?

leah.catotti@gmail.com
919-358-4976

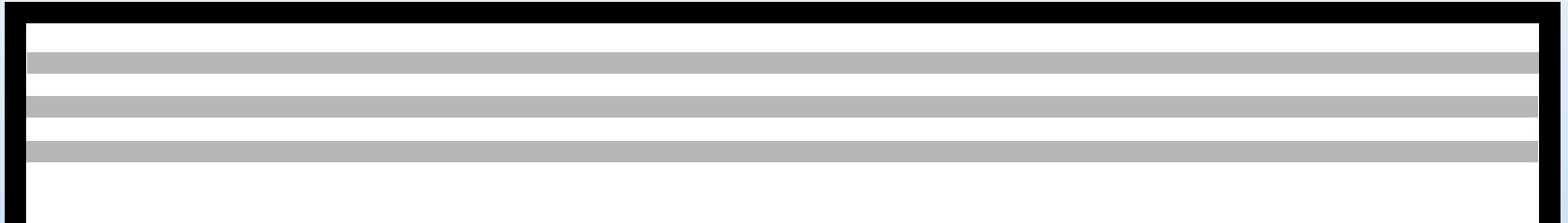


Thank you!

CREDITS: This presentation template was created by **Slidesgo**, including icons by **Flaticon**, and infographics & images by **Freepik**



Additional Slides



SIGNAL SUPPORT FOR REMOVING SROS FROM SCHOOLS

- TREC should publicly state support for removing SROs from all NC schools
- Alternatives to SROs better improve school climate and safety without leading to racially disparate outcomes
- Student behaviors would be less likely to be criminalized & more likely to be treated with developmentally-appropriate support

SUPPORT PILOT TO REMOVE SROS FROM SCHOOLS

- To better understand the impact of removing SROs from schools on school safety
- To collect and assess data on changes in school discipline disparities

REMOVE SROS FROM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

- Current research does not demonstrate that SROs prevent shootings or make schools safer
- SROs can contribute to a negative school climate
- Resources can be better used to support young children with counselors and nurses, rather than law enforcement

AMEND STATE SRO FUNDING

- Create an 'OR' option to give districts the option to choose between using funding for SROs or school mental health personnel
- Exclude SRO funding from going towards elementary schools
- Eliminate the 'supplement not supplant' requirement for SRO funding